



MANISTEE COUNTY RECREATION COMMISSION

August 7, 2023
6:15 P.M.

Manistee County Board of Commissioner's Room
and via Zoom

MINUTES

Members Present: Wayne Beldo, Chair; Margaret Batzer, Vice Chair; Gary Schwaiger, Secretary; Linda Cudney; Devin Wegner; Eleanor DeYoung; Robert Schulke; Bob DeYoung; Jeff Lawrence

Members Absent:

Others Present: Kristyn Malkowski, Recording Secretary; Katie Mehl, Manistee County Zoning Administrator/Planner I; Sarah Hershberger, Community Foundation; Cody Schuch, Billy McFadden

Mr. Beldo called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM, roll call was taken.

Approval of the August 7, 2023, meeting agenda.

There was a motion by Ms. Batzer, supported by Mr. Lawrence, to approve the August 7, 2023, meeting agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

Approval of the July 11, 2023, meeting minutes.

There was a motion by Ms. Cudney, supported by Ms. Batzer to approve the July 11, 2023, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment: Ms. Hershberger stated that she is here today to support the commission in any way she can throughout the grant making process.

Trail Champions: Ms. Mehl and Ms. Hershberger asked the commission to establish their plans for the Chief to Kaleva and Kaleva to Thompsonville trailheads. With these plans, the commission can start by applying for the Minger grant which can help with engineering studies and parking infrastructure and then move in stages from there. Ms. Batzer would like the commission to keep in mind the maintenance needed for these trailheads and to plan for a parking expansion in the future. Mark Sohlden, Manager of the Manistee County Road Commission, would like to make it

aware that there is a possibility a permit will have to be pulled for the proposed parking lot on Chief Road

The deadline for the Minger grant is October 2, 2023.

Staff Reports: County ORV Map: No update at this time.

Dam Update – No update, although Ms. Mehl stated that the EPA acknowledge and appreciate the Commissions work and support throughout this process.

Friends of Smart Trails Report: Ms. Cudney referenced the July 10, 2023, Friends of SMARTrails meeting minutes and the August 14, 2023, meeting agenda (Appendix A).

Old Business: No old business.

New Business:

Recreation Commission Vacancy – On July 18, 2023, Lisa Sagala, County Administrator/Controller and Mr. Schwaiger, presented a letter stating the concerns of Mr. Brian Dunlop’s attendance at the Recreation Commission meetings. It was a unanimous vote by the Board of Commissioners to remove Mr. Dunlop and post the vacant position.

Other Items from Committee Members: Ms. Batzer updated the commission regarding the work that was done after the diesel spill in Lake Michigan.

Mr. Beldo adjourned the meeting at 6:46 PM. Next meeting will be on September 5, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary Schwaiger, Recreation Commission

9/5/2023

Date



Friends of SMARTrails
Village of Kaleva former Elementary School
9208 Kauko Street
Kaleva, MI 49645
Monday, August 14, 2023
6:00 PM

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
 - 1. Roll Call**

- II. Consent Agenda**
 - 1. Approval of July 10, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes**
 - 2. Treasurers Report and payment of bills.**

- III. New Business**
 - 1. Report on Staging area for Copemish**
 - 2.**
 - 3.**

- IV. Old Business**
 - 1. Update of Website**
 - 2. EDA Update**
 - 3. Strategic Plan redo**
 - 4. Summer Festivals**
 - 5.**

- V. Other Business**
 - 1. County Recreation Commission update**
 - 2. Marketing Committee Update (Meet Thursday 8/10/23)**

- VI. Board Members Comments/Correspondence**

- VII. Adjourn**

- VIII. Next meeting date: September 11, 2023**

backpacking trails on USFS lands and coordination for the regional multi-use trail development from Manistee to Wellston and into Wexford County. Scott took this into consideration and informed us that the funding for this year has already been allotted, but possibly next year. Mark Coe from the Benzie Manistee Snowbirds stated that the Snowbirds groom 160 miles of snowmobile trail from High Bridge to Maple City and also there is a newly formed group called the "Dirtbirds" who are working on trails for ORV's in Manistee County. Linda will add Scott to the email list to keep him abreast of what is happening with SMARTrails.

IV. Old Business

1. Update of Website

It looks good, but is a work in progress. People are signing on, so that is a good sign.

2. EDA Update

Rob reported that the survey and geotechnical services have been done. Soil borings are being done near the bridge on Bear Creek. The engineering team met with EGLE to discuss permits and no issues were presented. The permits will be issued once the design is complete and applications are submitted. Everything is on schedule.

3. Strategic Plan Update

Still need to work on Trail descriptions. The marketing committee is scheduled to meet again on August 10, 2023 at the Cleon Township Hall at 6:00 PM.

4. Summer Festivals

Linda plans on being at the set up for the 5-K for Kaleva Heritage Days on July 15th. Linda will also volunteer for Copemish Heritage Days on August 5, 2023. No one is available for Onekama Days at this time. It was decided that the "Big Bear Butt Cruise" was a great place to volunteer at and possibly we could put some information, etc. in their pack they do for the bikers. Branded items were discussed to pass out with our rack cards for the Big Bear Butt Cruise. Other festivals will be discussed at the August meeting.

V. Other Business

1. Recreation Commission Update

Meeting was postponed until July 11, 2023 because of the July 4th holiday.

2. Marketing Committee Update

Did not meet.

3. The Chief Trailhead was discussed and will need preliminary engineering plans plus materials. Wayne Beldo also mentioned that the Village of Kaleva were thinking of a staging area close by the Village park. Wayne will bring this up at the County Recreation Commission meeting. Maybe the County Recreation Commission and County grant writer can pursue these options along with the trail from Thompsonville to Kaleva with a Trust Fund Grant.

4. Thompsonville to Interlochen Trail. Mark Coe reported that Elmers has looked at the Bendon route to Interlochen and AJ's scope of cost to do the minimal surface (1/2 the surface like Maple Grove to Chief), a culvert needs to be set near Interlochen, plus 6 ballast points in a wet area. Thompsonville to Reynolds Road is a current trail route.

5. Correspondence from Rob. Linda read other correspondence from Rob, as he was not able to attend this evening.